## PLAYING TAG WITH DEATH IN BALLOON

War Correspondent Finds One Trip in Observation "Sausage" Is Enough.

PARACHUTE GRIM REMINDER

Icy Blasts of Arctic Gale Chill Enthusiasm-German Batteries Lie Near.

BY WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS,

WITH THE BRITISH ARMIES IN THE FIELD, Feb. 1 (by mail) .- To find out what it is like up there, swung under an observation balloon, a mile above the snow-and-ice cover ed earth while a forty-mile gale cuts care to make another.

Mid-winter. Four inches of snow Thermometer hovering down around blades. It is an electrical wind gauge zero. The trees crack and crack in agony as the ground breeze sways their stiffened limbs. As you climb out of your motor car, in which you more than half froze, your nose is red, your eyes are watering and your feet twin appendages of pain; hands, horrible hurting things; fingers about to snap off.

Your "sausage"-as observation bal are known throughout the is being held down by the the road, in the edge of a wheat field. It is of the new French type, shaped like a short link of a plg sausage, and does not need the kite tail of its predecessors to keep it headed into the wind. Despite the forty-odd troopers holding on to its tethering ropes now, it swings slow-ly back and forth like a titanic elephant to which a schoolboy has just fed a plug of tobacco. It looks bale-ful, even murderous in a mild, con-cealed sort of way, and seems to be glaring angrily at the little basket in

the snow in front of it.
Thirty yards away, in the road, is its winch—the heavy auto-truck with its motor-driven drum for letting out and drawing in the slender wire cable controlling the height of the balloon One needle tells the altitude, anothe One needle tells the altitude, another the exact "pull," or wind pressure against the bag at any given moment. The cable is made to stand a fourton strain, and as a fifty-mile wind exerts a pull of about a ton, the string same prefix safe. string seems pretty safe.

you something to wear. Blessed cold up there." You follow the boyishlooking officer to his billet-a gypsy wagon home brought up to date; a motor vehicle of the "delivery" sort, in which he lives summer and winter. Later you discover three things about this young man: First, that he is very on to his job; second that he is fearless; third, that he is really an American, his father coming from

"Get into these," he says, handing you a lot of clothes built for polar exploration. As well as your numb-ness from the cold permits you stagger out of your own overcoat and boots and with the lleutenant's sid, muddle into the new kit. First, you put on a canvas and rope harness a broad band about each leg and one under the arms, a loop of stout rope sticking up past your chin. Next come the thigh boots, made of sheepskin with the wool inside, the bottom being of rubber and leather in layers. A huge leather ulster is put on now, this too, being fur-lined and fur-col-lared, the sleeves having elastic at the wrists to retain the heat of the body. Over the head goes a leather hood, fur lined like the rest. This fits the head snugly down to the eyes, drapes down over the fur collar of the ulster and leaves only eyes, nose and mouth exposed. At the ears are perforations—for one must be able to hear as well as to see. Huge, furthed gauntleted gloves complete your costume, and out of the vehicle you collimb, nimble as an infant hippotamus.

Art to Magistrate many.

be plane and sang in the plan originally played the plane and sang in the played the plane and they be abcrated by the Greek military audiction in the elaborated by the Greek military audiction in the part of the parlor, and I couldn't thorities in agreement with the Teutonic intentions were reinstated. The gas bills were something awful. I stood it until the end of January. Then he bought a ukuiele. I'll go to the Island, if you say so, but I'll be darned if I'll go back until they're married."

This meant that the plan originally force agsin."

This meant that the plan originally and the very night in the week, and they played the plane and sang in the played the plane and they of the scars are and mouth exposed. At the ears are and mouth exposed. The parlor until midnight. My room la next to the parlor, and I couldn't thorities in agreement with the Teutonic intentions were reinstated. The gas billies in agreement with the graph of the played the plane and I couldn't thorities in agreement with the reason and in the played the played the plane and I couldn't thorities in agreement with the g

than ever now. They have let the beast rise a little, and it is swaying over the basket as though in a terrible temper. Soldiers give the young lieutenant a leg and into the basket he goes. You follow.

"Here," says the lieutenant handing you a tout sitch about a foot long

you a stout stick about a foot long

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has been neatly spliced.
"What's this for?" you ask, accepting the offering.

Ready For Quick Jump "Slip the stick through the rope loop sticking out the top of your overcoat there," he replies. "That at-taches you to the parachute." To the parachute, eh? you think to yourself. Which means that maybe you'll have to come down in it whether you want to or not. You look into the icy-blue sky and upon the ice-bound earth and think what it must be like to fall out of the one onto the other. And the Germans, within easy range, may be watching with their artillery primed, for your sausage to stick up its head. "Let her go!" snaps the young lieu-tenant.

"Ready, men! Let her GO!" repeats the wing sergeant. The winchman moves a lever and the world begins to fall away. At first the basket swings dizzily, but at 200 or 300 feet it steadies itself and rides evenly un jerk and a bobble which sets the basket rocking hair-raisingly for a fraction of a minute which seems

some years. "Winch stopped," says the lieutenant, who now adjusts a telephone re-ceiver and transmitter to his head, dangling for hours in a tiny basket just as you have seen many a "centrai" do, and talks. "Give her more cable," he says. "We are not high enough."

And up you go again. The wind. by, fresh from the pole, I was allowed to make the ascent today. I do not care to make another. Enough's blowing thirty-five miles an hour the Greek authorities to the Bulgarnow. A nickel-plated wheel on a Teuton troops. cross-bar just over your head, is revolving so fast you can not see its official docume which not only tells the man in the basket how fast the winds blows. but people on the ground as well. Another bobble marks the stoppage of the balloon and the gauge shows you to be about half a mile high.

Parachute Becomes Important. "If you should have to jump." the fleutenant explains, "all you do is to climb up on the edge of the basket, on your side, balance yourself there. then let go in an upright position. That's all there is to it."

"Where's the parachute?" you ask just to show you are not set speech

"There are two, of course," he say "One for you and one for me. They are on our respective sides of the car. Look down." You look. You see the parachute-case, fastened to the side of the basket. Inside is the Japanese silk thing, your sole hold on life if anything happens to the And-

"There are the Germans, over at Saloniki, wh there," remarks the lieutenant, point ing eastward, northward, and south—The first of

"We're in a salent," he explains.
Though not very high—just half a mile—you now begin to understand what balloon observers are up against Overhead a sky, the color of an ice-berg. Beneath, ice and snow. About you, an arctic gale. The artillery thunders and a few thousand yards away are the German batteries which may get you at the sale are t ward.
"What!" you gasp. "All around us?" "Come with me," says a dapper young wing-lieutenant, "and I'll find hostile aeroplane may shoot blazing "Come with me," says a dapper way get you at any moment. Or a munications from the superior authorities, which cancelled all previous comarrows into your sausage, set it on fire and leave you to get to the ground as best you can. You sudden-ly discover a tremendous admiration We for these men who hang up in the icy sky and telephone down to earth what they see; men, who, unlike the more romantic aviator, not often break into print.

UKULELE LAST STRAW

When Daughter's Suitor Got One, Father Left Home.

YORK, Feb. 28-Mrs. Emily NEW YORK, Feb. 28—Mrs. Emily foreign office, resulted in complete Stewart and her husband, Charles, of 500 East Sixty-eighth street, who have been married twenty years, were in the domestic relations court yesterday. Mrs. Stewart said her husband had not lived with her nor supported her since January 30.

"Last November a young man began calling on my eldest daughter, who is eighteen years old," said Stewart to Magistrate Harris. "He came every night in the week, and they played the plane and sang in the

and about the middle of which a rope GREEK KING CLOSES has been neatly spliced. TWO NEWSPAPERS

> Press Exposed Intrigue to Hand Over Forts and Troops to Germans.

SURRENDER ORDER PRINTED

Documents Now in Hands of Saloniki Provisional Government.

SALONIKI, Feb. 26 (via London, Feb. 28) .- Two of the leading daily newspapers in Athens, the Patris and the Nea Hellas, have been suppressed by the royal government for exposing King Constantine's pro-German trigues. The disclosures made by these two pro-ally newspapers relate

The Patris published a series of official documents that passed be tween the war ministry, the Third Army Corps, and the Eleventh Division, stationed at Saloniki, showing that the King's government had been in secret agreement with the German military authorities as to the policy to be pursued by the Greek troops when the prearranged Bulgarian invasion began. This policy, as events have demonstrated, was voluntary urrender and captivity.

Ordered Not to Resist.

When the Patris was stopped th Nea Hellas took up the task of ex posing the King's treasonable acts. One of its last issues contained a re-markable series of documents. These You are strictly confidential military or ders issued to the commandant of Fort Rupel, Major Mavroudis, by his superior officers. Major Mavroudis, now a Venizelist, has delivered these orders to the provisional government at Saloniki, which supplied them to

The first of these documents is a long order, marked strictly confiden-tial, sent by General Moshopoulos, of

mands not to resist. "We shall resist with all force any occupation of the fort by the German-Bulgarian troops. will send more detailed orders in near future." read one of these

Surrender Planned In Advance.

"These communications would have (The second number of the series describing a war correspondent's experience in a sausage observation balloon on the Brithleh The State of the war ministry," says the Nea Hellas, "had not already negotiations been started between the German-Bulgarian general staff and their ambasgarian general staff and their amhas-sadors on one side and the Greek gen-eral staff and the King's government on the other side. These negotiations, as it appears from the archives of the foreign office, resulted in complete

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more, Washington, Atlantic City, Trenton.

### CUTS PRICES FOR NEEDY

Pennsylvania Farmer Refuses \$2.50 Rate on Potatoes.

CHAMBERSBURG, Pa., Feb. 28.— Abram Light, a farmer in Guilford township, this county, has nearly 100 bushels of potatoes that he does not need for his own use. A dealer yes-terday offered him \$2.50 a bushel for

them.
"No," replied Mr. Light, "you can "No." replied Mr. Light, "you cannot buy. I had good crops this year, and now I am going to help those who have not blen so fortunate as I have been. I will sell them to my neighbors for \$2 a bushel, but no more than a bushel to any one. I have more than 300 bushels of wheat and a considerable quantity of corn. I will not sell more than 100 bushels of wheat at a time, and then only to a fine than 100 bushels. of wheat at a time, and then only to a local miller, so that my neighbors may be able to procure food for their families. To those in need of corn I will sell in small quantities, but will not wholesale it."

# OPTIMISM REIGNS AT DISTRICT COURT

Attaches of Supreme Branch Overcome by Unheralded Attitude of Philosophy.

Philosophy is in full bloom these lays in the new home of the District Supreme Court.

Whether the germ is transplanted from the great domed structure of the Capitol, several hundred yards away, or is the overflow from that fountain of optimism and pessimism is a question.

question. Nevertheless there is a favorite circle housed in the less pretentious building which has developed the "philosophical attitude" to that stand-

ard which sees good in everything, even in flimsy partitions between the rooms in which they toll daily. And to him who utters imprecations on the walls of his house or apartment, which are thin enough to permit the noise of the frying of the

neighboring steak, the crying of a cross baby or (lest we forget) the alleged music of a phonograph to be distinctly transmitted to his ears. this tale from the local headwaters of justice may prove of consolation.

Now the partitions in the new cour illding are not much thicker than tissue paper. The building is only a temporary home for the courts and the partitions are the most temporary part of the entire structure.

Complaints there were galore when the court attaches first began workingen their new quarters.

Hear All Noises.

You can hear everything that is going on in the rooms on every side of you, was the general grumble. And sure enough you could—and still can But grumbling has ceased completely. And the story goes that the halt was called to the cemplaints by some germ of philosophy coming from whence or where no one knows. Suscicion points to the Canital. And to pictor points to the Canital. picion points to the Capitol. And to day every one sees nothing but good

in the thin walls.

"There is no one here who even thinks wrong about his neighbors," explained one of the court's philosoph ers today, "That's what the much ma-ligned walls have done."

# 'HOME SWEET HOME' ORIGINAL NETS \$360

Highest Price at McGuire Sale of Historical Notes and Documents.

FOR COLLECTION

Other Americana Offered at Same Time Realizes Total of \$2,789.

NEW YORK, Feb. 28.-The interest ng historical letters and document collected by the late Frederick B. McGuire, including President Madison's correspondence, were sold Monday night at the American Art Asso ciation, and good prices were paid. The leading figure was \$360, given by James F. Drake for a signed holograph manuscript of John Howard Payne's "Home, Sweet Home,"

George Washington's letter to Madison, inviting him to Mt. Vernon, sold to W. M. Hill for \$350. C. F. Hartman gave \$150 for a letter by the Marquis de Marbois, and J. C. Mc. Guire paid \$125 for a cane presented by Commodore Elliot to Madison. A. Swann, agent, paid \$250 for an

carly draft of George Washington's Thanksgiving Day proclamation; \$175 for a letter by Shelby, first governor of Kentucky; \$180 for a letter of Thomas Paine's; \$105 for a draft of one of Madison's proclamations; \$255 for Miss Sally McKean's correspondence with Mrs. Madison; \$255 for a draft of the content ence with Mrs. Madison; \$355 for a John Paul Jones letter: \$305 for a Thomas Jefferson letter: \$105 for an Eric Canal document; \$105 for a letter from President Adams, and \$105 for Adams' letter in regard to the War of 1812.

The total for the McGuire collec-

tion was \$5,433.
In the group of Americans sold at the same time G. D. Smith bought for \$347.50 Sabin's "Dictionary of Ameri-cana," Charles Scribner's Sons gave \$160 for "The Proprietary Lands of New Jersey," 1747; T. J. Holmes paid \$135 for Cotton Mather's "Beasonable Religion;" A. Swann, agent, gave \$105 for the Alexander Hamilton broadside, and \$187.50 for the Rhode Island broadside declaring the "Cessation of Arma," C. F. Hartman bought "The Stamp Act" broadside, printed in New York 1765.
The total for the Americana was \$2,789.

MAKES PATRIOTIC PLEA

Champ Clark-Calls for Support of Country's Traditions.

"Now is the time for red-blooded men to uphold the traditions upon which our country is built," Speaker Champ Clark told members of the Missouri Society at its banquet in Rauscher's last night.

"Americanism, foremend aft, and all around is what we need now," con-tinued the speaker, "we already have

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plenty of weakened Americanism, and sit down at a table, and made him what we need now is red-blooded buy drinks for them. He was so terrified he "bought" for an hour.

Congressman Philip P. Campbell of Congressman Philip P. Campbell of Kansas predicted the District would be "dry" by tomorrow night. He first lauded Kansas, as being a State which produced reformers, and stated that twenty-seven States have followed the action of Kansas in "going dry," and that by tomorrow night the District would follow suit.

"I hope that the time will not come when we will be engaged in war," said

"I hope that the time will not come when we will be engaged in war," said Congressman Campbell, "but if the time ever comes, men and women of Missourl and Kansas will do their share." Congressman J. T. Lloyd, whose term in Congress expires March 4, was presented a gold watch and chain by members of the society for his service of twenty years in Congress as a representative of Missouri. First dose of "Pape's Cold resentative of Missouri. Quit blowing and snuffling! A dose of "Pape's Cold Compound" taken every two hours until three doses are taken will end grippe misery and break up a severe cold either in the head, thest,

BANDITS MAKE HIM BUY

St. Louisan "Sets 'Em Up" at Poin

of Revolver. ST. LOUIS, Feb. 28.—Bandits who make their victims buy drinks have entered hold-up circles here. Edward Graham went to a vaudeville show in downtown theater.

and air passages; stops nasty discharge or nose running; relieves sick headache, duliness, feverishness, sore throat, snees-ing, soreness and stiffness. "Pape's Cold Compound" is the quick-During the intermission Edward est, surest relief known and costs only 25 cents at drug stores. It acts without stepped across the street to a saloon. When he went behind a partition When he went behind a partition assistance, tastes nice, and causes no men drew revolvers, ordered him to inconvenience. Don't accept a substitute.

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reduce operating costs. We are advised by Southern Railway Company that the average earnings for the last five fiscal years, the earnings for the 1916 fiscal year, and the earnings for the first six months of the current fiscal year (partly estimated), as contrasted with the same period in the preceding year, have been

,	Average for Five Fiscal Years Ended	Fiscal Year Ended	Six Months Ended Dec. 31, 1916	Increase over 1915
Total Operating Revenues Operating Expenses and Taxes		June 30, 1916 \$69,997,675 48,993,676	\$39,933,769 27,278,991	\$5,556,976 3,161,588
Total Operating Income		21,004,005 3,422,026	12,654,778 1,044,481	2,395,388 71,569*
Total Gross Income	3,781,420 10,869,735	24,426,031 4,111,288 10,980,844 9,333,899	13,699,259 1,914,794 5,547,649 6,236,816	2,323,819 69,166 64,356 2,190,297

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